

THE CLASSIC CITY ROTARY OF ATHENS PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

- 2022 / 2023 -

Rotary



Club of
The Classic
City of Athens



CLASSIC CITY ROTARY FORMS "PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT" COMMITTEE

In June 2020, The Rotary Foundation Trustees and the Rotary International Board of Directors unanimously approved the Environment as their seventh focus area.

Acting on the advice of Blair Dormeny, former 2021-2022 club president of The Classic City of Athens Rotary, and under the guidance of 2022-2023 president Michelle Roberts, the Classic City Rotary quickly pledged their support by forming a "Protecting the Environment" Committee. The committee utilized the Environmental/Sustainable Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) to steer their efforts. The six key themes of ESRAG encompass Biodiversity, Sustainable Living, Climate, Food Systems, Pollution, and the Circular Economy.



2022-2023 CCR ADDRESSING SIX ESRAG THEMES

<p><u>Biodiversity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator Garden Planting • Okefenokee Swamp: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Trip in January to Swamp ◦ Speakers to Club and Committee ◦ Movie at Cine 	<p><u>Sustainable Living</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHaRM Workshop for Community • Speaker: UGA Sustainability Department T. Byers
<p><u>Climate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • En-ROADS Workshop for the Community 	<p><u>Food Systems</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker: Lunch Out of Landfills
<p><u>Pollution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker: Rainwater Harvesting 	<p><u>Circular Economy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trip to MODA Exhibit in Atl





2022-2023 CURRENT METHODS

The Classic City of Athens Rotary Club used three Methods to address Environmental and Sustainability Issues which included: I) Education and Awareness, II) Featured Speakers to the Club Regarding Environment and III) Community Events and Work Projects.

I. Education and Awareness as a Club	II. Featured Speakers to the Club Regarding Environment	III. Community Events and Work Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8/7/2022: Rotary Field Trip to Museum of Design (MODA) to learn about Circular Design 8/2/2022: Movie Night at Cine to see "Okefenokee Destiny" as a group 11/3/2022: Environmental Committee meet with Kim Bednarek regarding Okefenokee advocacy 1/20/23 thru 1/22/2023: Classic City Rotarians and Friends made a weekend trip to appreciate and learn more about the Okefenokee Swamp. Weekly Bulletin Blogs to provide awareness to club regarding Environmental topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5/23/2022: RI's Newest Focus: Protecting the Environment 6/6/2023: Author and Naturalist Janisse Ray on the Okefenokee Swamp 8/8/2022: ESRAG - Lunch Out of Landfills Rotary Talk Joe Richards 8/29/2022: UGA Sustainability Talk with Tyra Byers from UGA Sustainability Department 1/30/2022: Eddie Van Giesen for Rain Water Harvesting at the Industrial level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10/18/2022: Recycling Workshop sponsored by Classic City Rotary at the Center for Hard to Recycling Materials (CHaRM) 10/25/2022: Pollinator Garden Planting Project with Club 11/10/2022: En-ROADS Climate Simulator Workshop for the Community sponsored by Rotary at the Chamber of Commerce



MOVING FORWARD

The Classic City Rotary of Athens has amended its bylaws to include the "Protecting the Environment" Committee as an official voting member of its board. According to the bylaws, the committee's mandate is to advocate for environmental protection and sustainability. This is to be achieved through the organization, coordination, and promotion of environmental sustainability service projects, facilitated by grants and collaborations.

MANY THANKS

We express our gratitude to all the volunteers, both within and outside the Classic City Rotary, who have contributed to the formation of the "Protect the Environment" committee.

Expanding the committee to include members from other local and District clubs, as well as individuals from the broader community, will fortify the committee's work and extend its influence.



Rotary supports activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance environmental sustainability, and foster harmony between people and the environment.